

Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

www.ext.vt.edu

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnis, Interim Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.

CULPEPER COUNTY EXTENSION STAFF

Administration: Becky Gartner, Unit Coordinator - rebes13@vt.edu

Cindy Atkin, Unit Administrative Assistant - cratkin@vt.edu

Camilla Gaudioso, Unit Support (Camilla@vt.edu)

Extension Agents: Becky Gartner, Family and Consumer Sciences - rebes13@vt.edu

Cristy Mosley, 4-H Youth Development - cmosley1@vt.edu

Ashley Appling, Horticulture - ashappling@vt.edu

Carl Stafford, Agriculture & Natural Resources - ccstaffo@vt.edu

Program Coordinator: Ellen Chamberlain, Rural Opioids Technical Assistance - emathis@vt.edu

Program Assistants: JoAnna Kilby, 4-H Youth Development - jkilark@vt.edu

Georgette Mosley, Family Nutrition Program, Youth - gyates@vt.edu

Brenda Watkevich, Family Nutrition Program, Adults - bwatkevi@vt.edu

Other agents serving Culpeper: ANR-Tim Mize (Fauquier), Brad Jarvis & Adam Downing (Madison), Courtney Wesner (Orange), Kenner Love (Rappahannock); FCS—Clare Lillard (Orange)

The Culpeper Extension Office is located at 101 S. West Street, Culpeper, VA 22701. (Corner of West and Davis) Telephone: (540) 727-3435



*If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in any of the activities offered by Virginia Cooperative Extension, Culpeper Office, please contact our office at (540) 727-3435 during business hours of 8am and 5pm to discuss accommodations at least 5 days prior to the event. *TDD number is (800) 828-1120.*

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES (FCS)

Becky Gartner, Extension Agent, FCS

Drinking Water Clinic for Culpeper, Fauquier, and Rappahannock Counties

Does your water come from a well, spring, or cistern? Do you want to learn more about the quality of your water? Then you will be interested in participating in the Drinking Water Clinic being sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension.

Details of the Drinking Water Testing Program are incomplete at this time due to COVID-19. The tentative date for an informational meeting is October 7, 2020 with the sample drop off on October 14.

Please contact the Culpeper Extension Office for more details at (540) 727-3435 or Becky Gartner, rebes13@vt.edu.

ServSafe Manager Certification Course

Participants in this course will complete the requirements for a Food Protection Manager Certification of the National Restaurant Association. The course is designed for managers of food service operations, food and beverage managers, catering managers, chefs and dietary managers. After completing the classroom work, participants will take a national certification exam. The cost for the course is \$160 per person.

Class Dates: October 19 & 26, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Location: Madison Extension Office

Virtual Home Food Preservation Course

Virginia Cooperative Extension is now offering a Virtual Home Food Preservation course. The self-paced course will provide participants with the basic knowledge of safe home food preservation methods such as canning, freezing, dehydration and fermentation. You will learn the science behind these techniques and receive step by step guidance on how to do them at home.

Registration deadline is October 15, 2020. After registering, you have until December 31, 2020 to complete the course. The cost for the course is \$15. You can register at <https://bit.ly/2MrcY8G>

For more information on ServSafe Manager Course or the Virtual Home Preservation Course, contact Becky Gartner, Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences, at rebes13@vt.edu or 540-727-3435, ext. 344.



4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Cristy Mosley, Extension Agent, 4-H
JoAnna Kilby, 4-H Program Assistant

4-H is the youth development education program of Virginia Cooperative Extension. 4-H is rich with learning experiences where young people partner with caring adults and volunteers in a fellowship unlike any other program available to youth today. Through 4-H, young people are encouraged to participate in a variety of activities that emphasize 4-H's "learning by doing" philosophy of youth development.

October is just around the corner and that means that it is time to begin a new 4-H club year. If you have been considering joining 4-H now is a great time to join in on the fun! There are currently 10 4-H clubs in Culpeper County that range from livestock, horse, shooting sports, public safety (fire, rescue & police activities) and Cloverbuds (ages 5-8). 4-H has something for everyone and plenty of fun for the entire family. Don't wait another minute...join TODAY!

CULPEPER 4-H CLUBS

At the time of this submission, our clubs are not meeting in person due to COVID-19. Please contact Cristy Mosley for updates on meeting situations – online or in person.

Office: (540) 727-3435 Email: cmosley1@vt.edu

4-H Public Safety Club
A²: Alpaca Adventures Club
Cedar Mountain 4-H Shooting Sports Club
Cloverbud Club
Beef Club
Goats 'R' Us
Rixeyville Riders
Sheep Club
Swine Club
Town & County Critters

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES (ANR)

Carl Stafford, Senior Extension Agent, ANR

New Technology Uses in Agriculture

The next generation of farmers use technology in some unexpected ways. Adaptation as they say, is “the mother of invention” and so goes the case in agriculture. Not every technology savvy farmer is under 30. In fact when asked, a 50-year old allowed as how his 20 something daughter had only helped him once with a new record keeping program. I fully expected to hear she was in the middle of operating the new system, so an apology is in order to him and his generation for being underestimated. The promise of profit is a powerful motivator and pushes us to act outside our comfort zone.



The main point today is to tell a family story about drone use and not as you would expect, like in mapping. Dad called and explained his wonder at his 30 something son using his new drone to exercise the dogs. Most bird dogs will chase a flying object and the farm pets obliged. But there is a more useful purpose for farming and yet still unexpected. We know



from television shows that the Australians and others occupying large tracts of remote territory will use aerial herding methods. Rounding up cattle with a helicopter makes practical sense, so the young farmer gave it a try himself. Sure enough it worked! He was able to

go out to a remote pasture by drone and bring the cattle up to the gathering pen, but there is more. Knowing he was short a few head he went back to find the few stragglers hiding out in the shade. These too were brought up joining the others in the pen. He stood at his post there so as to open and close gates – the drone has not mastered this task, yet.

I hear other young farmers use their drones to check cattle, all while sitting at their desk back in the farm office. The perspective offered by an elevated camera is fully appreciated in the real estate world as we see weekly angles from on high featuring the latest land for sale. Only from an airplane would this perspective have been possible before drones came along.

Unexpected uses of new technology will rule the day in many cases—kind of like developments from the space program. Velcro is a good example. We take this wonderful fastening device for granted today and wonder how we would cope without it. The space folks never intended for its many applications by citizens today. I regularly use it to fasten the date of the BCIA bull test sale to the sign board at the Culpeper Agricultural Enterprises (CAE) – by the way, it is December 12, 2020. Last week, 115 bulls were taken in to begin the 112-day test at Glenmary Farm.

HORTICULTURE

Ashley Appling, Associate Extension Agent, ANR-Horticulture

Asian Hornet vs European Hornet, What you need to know!

Asian Giant Hornet

Vespa mandarinia



Allan Smith-Pardo, Invasive Hornets,
USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

European Hornet

Vespa crabro



Allan Smith-Pardo, Invasive Hornets,
USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

The Asian hornet (pictured left) has not been found in Virginia or the United States outside of Washington State.

The European hornet (pictured on right) is a commonly found species in Virginia that can be confused for the Asian hornet.

The European hornet is a large hornet typically 1 inch (2.54cm) long, smaller than the Asian giant hornet, and its head is not as large. It is a generalist predator, that does not pose a major threat to honeybees, animals, or people.

For more information check out our fact sheet on the European hornet: https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/2911/2911-1422/ENTO-369.pdf
An Asian hornet fact guide can be found on this website: https://www.ento.vt.edu/News/Asian_Giant_Hornet.html

Summer Vegetable Gardening

- For a fall harvest of cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, and Brussels sprouts, set transplants in late July. For a fall harvest of lettuce, radish, carrots, beets, turnips, kale, and spinach, sow seeds in late July to early August.
- Don't neglect plantings of strawberries, blueberries, and bramble fruits just because the fruit has been harvested. These plants are forming buds for next year's crop. Prevent water stress now to prevent buds from shriveling.
- Apples and pears trained as cordons, espalier, and other formal shapes can be summer pruned in early August.
- To determine if an apple is ready to pick, hold it up and give it a twist. If it resists, let it ripen a few more days.
- Whenever possible, choose early maturing vegetables for the fall garden. They can be planted after the early summer vegetables have been harvested and still be ready to pick before freezing weather.
- Before storing root crops like carrots and beets, cut off the green tops. The leaves transpire pulling moisture out of the roots, thus drying them out.
- A cover crop decreases erosion of the soil during the winter, adds organic material when it is incorporated in the spring, improves soil tilth and porosity, and adds valuable nutrients. Winter cover crops can be planted as early as August 1, but should not be planted any later than November 1.
- Plant a winter cover crop to enrich your garden soil. Annual rye, red clover, and hairy vetch are good choices.
- It's not too late to plant a fall garden. Lettuce, radishes, spinach, turnip, and peas can be started from seed. Chinese cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower transplants will still have time to produce a good harvest. Be extra diligent in watching for pests on these crops.

**The disAbility Resource Center of the Rappahannock, Inc.**

409 Progress Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

540-373-2559 (voice), 540-5890 (CAPTEL), 540-373-8126 (Fax)

www.cildrc.org drc@cildrc.orgKim Lett, klett@cildrc.org or 540-373-2559

Disability affects the lives of all of us. Either we are born with a disability, acquire one, are in an accident, or one comes with age. Even if a disability has not touched you personally, it likely has touched someone you know. When you are faced with a disability, where do you go? How do you find information? How do you navigate the service system? How do you learn or relearn skills? Who do you talk to? Centers for Independent Living (CIL) can answer those questions and provide help. CILs provide information and referral, advocacy, training in independent living skills, peer counseling, transition (from nursing facility to home or from high school to adult life), and other services that benefit people of all ages with disabilities.

The disAbility Resource Center (dRC) in Fredericksburg, is one of 17 CILs in Virginia. Each CIL has a specific service area and the dRC's is Fredericksburg, and the counties of Stafford, Spotsylvania, Caroline, and King George. Unfortunately, the city and county of Culpeper and the counties of Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock (Lower Planning District 9) have no CIL in their area and are considered a large underserved area of Virginia with regards to independent living services for people with disabilities.

The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) is an independent planning body working with CILs and the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) to increase the impact of Independent Living services in Virginia. It develops a three-year State Plan for Independent Living, facilitates the goals and activities in that plan, and distributes funds allocated by Congress for independent living services. The state plan is revised every three years with the current plan running from 2021 to 2023. The plan is monitored by the SILC and public input is welcome by the SILC at any time (Lauren.Rocke@dars.virginia.gov or 804-663-7817).

Are you interested in having a Center for Independent Living in Lower PD9? CILs are created through the efforts of local people with disabilities, their family members, friends, and other interested persons who form a coalition to develop a CIL. The dRC, through a grant from the SILC, has attended meetings with Aging Together, the Culpeper Disability Services Advisory Committee, and other community groups to network with those interested in pursuing independent living services in lower PD9. With elections right around the corner, this is a good time to include local and state legislators and those running for office in discussions about the formation and funding of a Center for Independent Living for the Culpeper, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock area. For more information on how to get involved and learn more about developing a CIL, contact the disAbility Resource Center at 540-360-5023 or drc@cildrc.org.

While dRC doors have been closed to the public, the disAbility Resource Center's staff continues to work both at home and inside the building. It has updated its kitchen to facilitate more inclusive independent living skills training, has installed a digital, larger, drop down screen to better view trainings, developed an online training about voting for youth with disabilities, and developed a series of online independent living skills trainings. We hired a new Advocacy Director, Deborah Lately, and we continue to provide individual independent living, peer counseling, information and referral and advocacy. All through the COVID closure, the dRC has kept its doors to its Equipment Connection open to support people in need of durable medical equipment.

Staff from the dRC is happy to talk to any group about independent living and what the Center does. The dRC is also interested in offering more trainings. If you would like a speaker for your group or have a suggestion for a training or workshop, please contact Kim Lett at klett@cildrc.org.



RESOURCES FOR OPERATING REMOTELY

With the new normal being social distancing, telecommuting, zoom meetings, public hygiene and other aids now assist us in our daily lives, both personal and business. The following links are offered to businesses for publicly available solutions and tools.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources

SBA Link: <https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>

The CARES Act Provides Assistance to Small Business

U.S. Treasury Link: <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares/assistance-for-small-businesses>

Businesses and Workplaces: Plan, Repair and Respond

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html>

Coronavirus, (COVID-19) in Virginia

Virginia.gov Link: <https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>

COVID-19 Resources for Small Businesses

Virginia SBDC Link: <https://www.virginiasbdc.org/covid/>

Recovery Resources for Small Business

Virginia SBDC Link: <https://www.virginiasbdc.org/recoveryresourcecenter/>

COVID-19 Road to Recovery

Lord Fairfax SBDC Link: <https://lfsbdc.org/has-your-business-been-impacted-by-covid-19/>

This information is available from federal websites including the US Small Business Administration website, www.sba.gov or the Lord Fairfax Small Business Development Center website at www.lfsbdc.org.

The Small Business Development Center at Culpeper offers free business consulting, affordable training courses and personal referrals to local resources, guidance, insights, and connections to help your business succeed. All services given at the SBDC at Culpeper are at no cost and are strictly confidential.

Contact: David C. Reardon
Business Counselor
 Email: dreardon@lfsbdc.org
The SBDC at Culpeper

803 South Main St. | Culpeper, VA
22701
PHONE: 540-727-0638
www.lfsbdc.org

The SBDC at Culpeper is funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration and Culpeper County and is hosted by Lord Fairfax Community College.



The **Culpeper County Express Bus** picks you up at your door anywhere in Culpeper County and drops you off in the Town of Culpeper. From there, hop on the Trolley. When you are done, the Express Bus will bring you back home.

NEED A RIDE?

Did you know there are many easy to use and affordable Public Transportation options available for everyone to use right here in Culpeper?

Need more information about public transportation in Culpeper?

Call (540) 825-2456

We strive to serve our entire community!



Culpeper Trolleys

Monday thru Friday :

7:00 AM—6:20 PM

Saturdays :

8:20 AM —2:20 PM.

Need to travel between Culpeper and Charlottesville?

Try the new **Foothills Express Route**.

Need to travel between Orange and Culpeper?

The **Orange-Culpeper Connector Service** runs **Monday thru Friday** from **7:30 AM—5:00 PM.**

Disability?

Schedule the Town of Culpeper **ADA bus** 24-hours in advance for a door-to-door ride.

We can get you where you need to go. Come take a ride with us!



AGING TOGETHER IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION CREATED OVER 20 YEARS AGO IN RESPONSE TO THE STEADILY INCREASING DEMOGRAPHIC OF OLDER ADULTS IN OUR FIVE-COUNTY REGION. IT MAINTAINS AND SUPPORTS A BROAD PARTNERSHIP OF ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS WHO COLLABORATE TO EVOLVE THE FUNDAMENTAL VISION OF AGING TOGETHER, WHICH IS AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES THAT ACTIVELY ENGAGE, VALUE AND SUPPORT OLDER ADULTS.

AGING TOGETHER & LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES:

Most everyone has the goal of staying at home as they age. An actionable response to this is the formation of “Liveable Communities”. A Liveable Community refers to one that is, as AARP defines, “safe and secure, has affordable and appropriate housing and transportation options, and offers supportive community features and services. Once in place, those resources:

- enhance personal independence
- allow residents to remain in their homes and communities as they age
- foster residents' engagement in the community's civic, economic, and social life.”

Aging Together's vision answers to the challenge of developing Liveable Communities in our region. This is a process that takes years to shape and a community must work collectively to define gaps for successful liveable communities by those who live and work there. Several strategies have been implemented to determine need and collectively share ideas in our region:

1. **County Teams** - under the auspices of Aging Together, each county has a team of volunteers who are closely aligned with the Aging Together strategic plan and who determine and articulate gaps in their communities. This enables Aging Together Teams to both develop current programs and gather resources for immediate need, and to scaffold future plans for liveable communities.
2. **Culpeper Liveable Aging Communities (CLAC)** - CLAC was organized in conjunction with partners as a task force dedicated specifically to help aging citizens remain in place within their current communities. They focus on Liveable Community models to help with present-day need. CLAC consists of volunteers from different sectors in Culpeper who meet regularly and foster services and programs.

3. **Community Needs Assessments** - in 2019, 500 volunteer residents within the 5-county region filled out questionnaires designed to obtain data and gather information about current issues facing older adults at very local levels. And PATH Foundation directed a parallel project designed to produce a Strategic Action Plan for Senior Services which estimated and projected statistics relevant to older adults through the year 2030.
4. **The Senior Services Collaborative (SSC) at PATH** - was formed as the outcome of the PATH community needs assessments. The SSC prioritized strategies to address the goals of Liveable Communities that advocate to the growing numbers of residents over the age of 65 throughout the entire region. The challenges put forth include:

- Improve Community Collaboration for Strengthening Senior Services
- Improve Community Health Services for Older Adults
- Improve Housing and Housing Supports for Older Adults
- Improve Social and Safety Net Services for Older Adults
- Improve Supports for Caregivers of Older Adults
- Support Age-Friendly Community Design
- Engage Older Adults as Leaders and Contributors

Aging Together's objective as an agency now is to respond to the issues identified from the Community Needs Assessments and to embrace the challenges put forth from the SCC so that the concept of “Liveable” communities in our area can be explored with step-by-step options for implementation.

“Aging Together recognizes that now, more than ever, we must focus on inclusion of all population sectors in order to fully embrace authentic and diverse Liveable Community models. Though we have slowed the process during the pandemic period, we encourage those who are interested in participating to please contact us.”

- Ellen Phipps, Aging Together Executive Director

To read more about the Liveable Community model, visit our website:

<https://www.agingtogether.org/liveable-communities.html>; or www.aarp.org and search “liveable communities”

PO Box 367, Culpeper, VA 22701

540-829-6405

info@agingtogether.org

Aging Together supports the counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange & Rappahannock



People Incorporated of Virginia is a non-profit Community Action Agency with locations across the Commonwealth, including Culpeper. The mission of People Incorporated is to provide opportunities for economically disadvantaged people to reach their goals in order to enhance their lives, their families and their communities. Opportunities include affordable housing, workforce development, child and family development, community economic development and community services.

People Inc.'s Culpeper office is located at 233 East Davis Street, Suite 100 and 300. Call us at 833-277-9330 or e-mail us at info@peopleinc.net for information about our services. Stay up to date with programs and events by visiting www.peopleinc.net or following us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

People Inc. currently operates four programs in Culpeper:

- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Culpeper
- Empowering Culpeper, a U.S.D.A. food distribution program
- Housing Services
- Virginia Community Action Re-entry System (Virginia CARES)

People Inc. is also helping families and businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with two programs:

COVID-19 Rent and Mortgage Relief Program

COVID-19 Small Business Loans

COVID-19 Rent and Mortgage Relief Program: RMRP helps eligible Culpeper families who have experienced a loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic, avoid eviction or foreclosure on their home. Assistance includes helping to make past due payments from April 1, 2020 onward. Payments are made directly to the landlord or mortgage lending institution. Interested applicants can learn more about eligibility requirements by visiting dhcd.virginia.gov/rmrp. Call People Inc. at 833-437-0114 to apply.

COVID-19 Small Business Loans: Small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic may qualify for Small Business Administration (SBA) microloans administered by People Inc. Call 833-437-0115 for more information.



CASA of Culpeper: CASA of Culpeper is now accepting volunteers to advocate for children in the foster care system going through court proceedings for abuse and neglect. People Inc. will train volunteers – we are currently conducting training virtually for the safety of all involved during the COVID-19 response period. If you're interested in making a positive difference in the life of a child call Bri Taylor, CASA coordinator, at 276-206-3155 to learn more!



Empowering Culpeper: Empowering Culpeper, an all-volunteer food distribution program, helps feed the Culpeper community on the third Saturday of each month. Follow People Inc. on Facebook for upcoming dates and locations.

Housing Services: People Inc.'s Permanent Supportive Housing program serves Culpeper clients who are chronically homeless with a disability. Our agency is also renovating Culpeper Crossing (formerly known as Brandywine Apartments). Culpeper Crossing apartments will begin pre-leasing in late 2020.



Virginia CARES: Virginia CARES helps offenders and their families as they transition from prison to life in the community. This program operates one day a week out of the People Inc. office in Culpeper. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, post-release clients are being served through video and phone calls. Learn more about People Inc.'s Virginia CARES program by calling 833-277-9330 and asking for case manager Marshall Williams.



Save Money with Soil Testing to Improve Your Lawn



Caring for the environment also means caring for your lawn. By using proper mowing and maintenance practices, you can enjoy a healthy, beautiful lawn while protecting local streams, rivers and lakes.

Our homes contain impervious surfaces (rooftop, patio, and driveway) that can't absorb and filter rainfall. This adds more runoff to your lawn, and the underlying soil characteristics of the lawn can affect how well the lawn absorbs and filters the impervious runoff. Soil compaction, low pH (e.g. acidic soils) and low nutrients can impact how well your grass grows in your lawn. If these issues are not addressed, excess fertilizer will not improve your lawn and is not retained in the landscape. It can contribute to harmful algal blooms and other water quality problems.

Beyond that, what is lawn care? It's not just seeding, watering and mowing. Aerating and amending the soil also improves soil structure, drainage and nutrient uptake. Balancing the soil pH so fertilizers are useful is always your best option. Managing clippings and leaves are all part of lawn care too. Returning these improve the soil and vegetation. How we care for our lawn determines the degree of the environmental benefits and impacts we achieve.

Healthy lawns can help prevent erosion, reduce runoff, and filter rainwater. A healthy lawn has uniform and mature vegetation that inhibits erosion and retains nutrients. A healthy lawn can capture over an inch of rain; traps dust and dirt; converts carbon dioxide to oxygen; and reduces the heat island effect with air temperatures up to 30 degrees cooler than pavement. A sparse lawn with bare soil needs improvement either by amending the soil or selecting different landscape plants.

The soil should be tested every three years. A composite soil sample of the whole yard is collected. A soil test includes information on the amount of nutrients, organic matter and pH level. The proper balance is essential to a healthy lawn. Additional assessments of patchy bare spots could be done to verify foot traffic, recent disturbance, disease or standing water.

The Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District is working with your local Extension agent to make sure homeowners like yourself have the knowledge and resources to do your part. ***The District is offering a voucher to cover the cost of the soil test***, while funding is available). The results come with specific recommendations that we help you to understand. For these vouchers please contact the District at stephanieD@culpeperswcd.org or 540-825-8591.

For more information on lawn care see the Virginia Extension Publication list: https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/tags.resource.html?tag=pubs_ext_vt_edu:lawns.

Drinking Water Testing Clinic for Residential Wells

Residents and landowners in Culpeper, Fauquier and Rappahannock are eligible for a clinic to test your well water. Contact Becky Sheffield at Rebes13@vt.edu or 540-727-3435. Location TBA. The dates are: Kick-off: October 7

Drop off samples: October 14

Results meeting: November 12

Cost Share Program Still Available to Address Emerald Ash Borer

By Meredith Bean,

Virginia Department of Forestry

The Emerald Ash Borer Cost Share Program is back for 2020! This reimbursement program offers aid to individual landowners, municipalities, homeowners' associations, universities, non-profits, etc. who are seeking to protect high-value ash trees from the destructive Ash Borer. Reimbursements are 50% of direct treatment costs (injection treatments of emamectin benzoate only) up to \$1,250 per landowner and \$5,000 per organization. Enrollment is open now until June 23rd but the Department of Forestry will be flexible with timing and method of submission given the current pandemic.

Questions? Please contact Meredith Bean, Emerald Ash Borer Program Coordinator at Virginia Department of Forestry at 434-262-0520 or via email: Meredith.bean@dof.virginia.gov.

As always, Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District is available with cost share for agricultural producers, technical assistance for all residents, hands on classroom/ Zoom programs and rain barrels! Contact Stephanie DeNicola at 540-825-8591 or stephanied@culpeperswcd.org for more information.

Who Should Vote By Mail? You!

No Matter Who You're Voting For, the Best Way to Vote in 2020 is By Mail.

The one “certainty” in 2020 has been uncertainty. With coronavirus, almost everything we do has required us to do it a little differently and, elections are no exception. For example, in the March Presidential Primary, held before there was widespread coverage of the virus, 2.7 percent of Culpeper County voters voted by mail. By the June Republican Senate Primary, that number had jumped to 6.5 percent. Looking ahead to November, our office has already received almost as many applications for absentee mail ballots as we did during the entire 2016 election. These numbers shouldn't be a surprise: If simple things like going to the grocery now require second thought, being able to vote without leaving

home makes a lot of sense.

We have received some questions from voters about voting by mail, particularly after President Donald Trump raised concerns about fraud. However, the president clarified in June that he wasn't referring to absentee ballots (which he has used to vote on several occasions).

“Absentee Ballots are fine. A person has to go through a process to get and use them.”

- Pres. Donald J. Trump
June 29, 2020

The reality is no matter who you plan to vote for in November, the safest and least stressful way to do so is by mail.

We will begin sending ballots in mid-September and because of changes in Virginia election law, anyone can request their ballot be mailed to them — you do not need to provide a reason to vote absentee anymore.

Consider that you can get your ballot, vote it, and mail it back in plenty of time. You'll avoid crowded polling places, waiting in line, and remove all risk of contracting any type of virus (Two people in our office caught the flu from a voter during the March Primary, so we know how easy it is to catch something).

For your safety, as well as the safety of your neighbors and Elections Officers, please use the instructions below to apply for your absentee ballot by mail; we look forward to sending it to you. Stay well!

**Culpeper
County**

VOTE

2020 Dates to

Remember:

**September 18:
Absentee Voting Begins**

**October 13:
Deadline for
New Registrations
or Updates**

**Oct. 23:
Last Day to Request an
Absentee Ballot by Mail**

**Oct. 24 & 31:
Office Open Saturday**

**October 31:
Last Day to Vote
Absentee in Person**

**November 3:
Election
Day!**



How to Apply for Your Absentee by Mail Ballot:

Online:

1. Visit:

VoteinCulpeper.info/Mail

2. Follow the instructions to complete the Online

Application through the State system (You'll need your Driver's License or DMV ID to complete the process).

3. We'll mail your ballot in mid-September



By Phone:

1. Contact our office at 540-825-0652

2. We'll mail you the Absentee Application

3. Complete it and return it to our Office at 151 N. Main St., Ste. 301, Culpeper, VA 22701

4. We'll mail your ballot in mid-September



CULPEPER COUNTY TREASURER, Missy N. White

Dear Culpeper Citizens,

Our lives continue to be affected by the situation surrounding COVID-19 and the long-term financial effects are still uncertain. The upcoming months will surely be interesting as we see how things unfold.

As we are preparing ourselves for tax season, I want to remind taxpayers that there are several ways to pay your Real Estate and Personal Property taxes. While we intend to remain open to the public, please keep in mind that may change depending on circumstances so we want to be sure your payment options are easily accessible. As always, please feel free to contact our office at 540.727.3442 if you need any assistance or have questions.

~ Missy N. White

Ways to Pay Your Personal Property and Real Estate Tax Bills (DUE DATE – December 7, 2020):

Culpeper County Personal Property and Real Estate taxes are mailed out the beginning of October each year and are due annually on December 5th. With December 5th falling on a Saturday in 2020, tax bills will have a due date of December 7, 2020.

PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL NO LONGER BE TAKING CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS BY PHONE

How Can I Pay My Taxes?

- In Person
 - ◇ 151 N. Main Street
Culpeper, VA 22701
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
(NOTE: We intend to have a 'walk up' option available in 2020)
- By Mail
 - ◇ Culpeper County Treasurer's Office
P.O. Box 1447
Culpeper, VA 22701-6447
- Drop Box
 - ◇ There is a 'drop box' available outside the door of our building at 151 N. Main Street.
 - * Instructions are posted and envelopes are provided
- ONLINE - can be accessed by any device with internet access (computer, smart phone, tablet, etc.)
 - ◇ Culpeper County website, www.culpepercounty.gov, click on eServices, select eTreasurer from the drop-down list.
 - ◇ Using the 'Payment Options' menu, select the type of tax you are paying
 - ◇ When paying Real Estate tax, enter email address and follow search parameters to locate your bill
 - ◇ When paying Personal Property tax, enter email address
 - * If you choose to create a PIN you may follow the instructions from here and utilize this option
 - * You DO NOT have to create a PIN if you choose to 'Access by Account No.' or 'Access by Dept/Ticket No'
 - * Your Account number and /or Dept/Ticket number can be located on your bill
 - * NOTE: You may have more than one account number depending on ownership/joint ownership of property. It is your responsibility to make sure all taxes are being paid. Please call the Office if you have any questions regarding your balance.
 - ◇ There is a 2% convenience fee when using a credit card (online or in person)
 - ◇ There is no fee added when using the 'e-check' option online

Commonwealth's Attorney Paul Walther

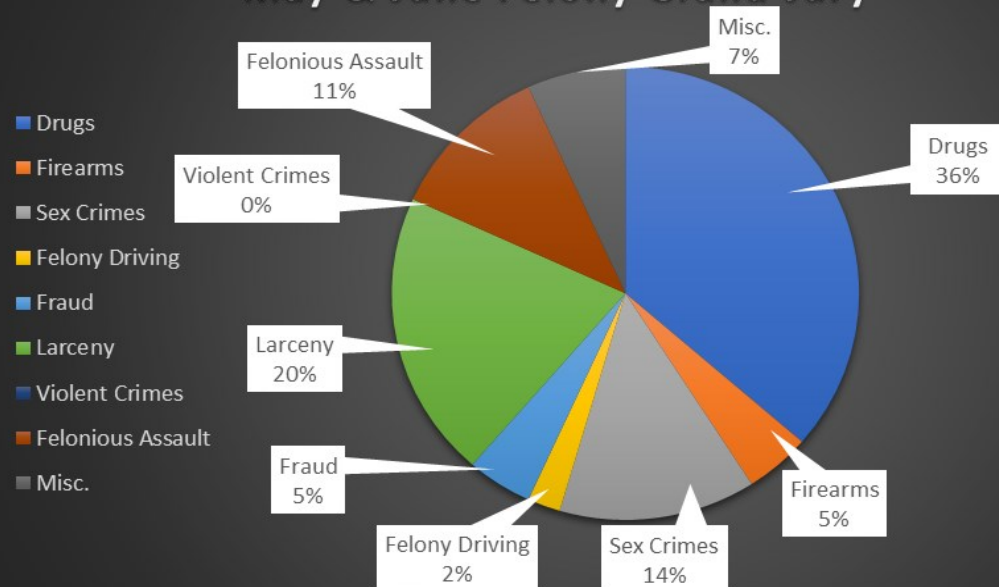
Employee Spotlight

James "Randy" Herring joined the Culpeper Commonwealth's Attorney Office in January 2020 as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney.

Randy grew up in both Culpeper and Albemarle county. He graduated Old Dominion University with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice in 2013. Following that, he became a police officer with the Albemarle County Police Department from 2011 to 2015. Randy left the Police Department to attend Liberty University School of Law where he graduated with his Juris Doctor in 2018. While attending law school, Randy interned with the Orange County Commonwealth's Attorney office. After passing the Bar, Randy worked in the Albemarle County Commonwealth Attorney's Office from December 2018 to December 2019.

When Randy is not in court, he enjoys watching sports and spending time with his family.

May & June Felony Grand Jury



Notable Concluded Cases of This Quarter

- On November 15, 2019 law enforcement officers, with the Virginia State Police and supported by the Culpeper County Sheriff's Office, investigated a fatal motor vehicle accident in the area of Route 522 (Sperryville Pike) and Route 641 (Gibson Mill Road). Pamela Mazingo died of her injuries on scene and her two adult sons, Joe Mazingo and Mark Southerland, suffered serious and life-threatening injuries. The driver of the other vehicle, Earl Jackson Nicholson, Jr., 38, was subsequently charged with felony involuntary manslaughter, two counts of felony maiming, and driving while intoxicated. He entered a guilty plea to all of the charges on May 20, 2020.
- On June 25, 2020, Judge Susan Whitlock, of the Culpeper Circuit Court, sentenced the defendant to thirty-one (31) years, with thirteen and a half years suspended. Nicholson will have a total active sentence of seventeen (17)

years and six (6) months. He was placed on good behavior for a period of thirty (30) years with the first five (5) years being supervised probation. His ability to drive was indefinitely suspended by the Court.

"This is yet another tragic example of the dangers of narcotics in our community," said the Commonwealth's Attorney, Paul Walther. "The careless actions of one individual has forever changed the lives of an entire family. The matriarch of a family is dead and her two sons will forever deal with the physical injuries caused by the defendant's actions. This is simply something that never should have happened and will have a profound effect for all involved."

How COVID has affected our Courts

When COVID began to take hold, few people wondered how the pandemic would affect our justice system. Employees were instructed to work from home and those with pending court dates found themselves calling their attorneys, calling the courthouse, or just forgetting about their pending charges all together. The Virginia State Supreme Court issued its first emergency order in March, and has issued four orders subsequently.

Many criminal justice departments began to change their procedures, including those in the Culpeper Courthouse itself. To the extent possible, our courts are back to a "new normal," with the Sheriff's Office smartly and carefully imposing new requirements. Now, citizens who enter the courthouse must meet a number of criteria and get their temperature taken immediately upon their arrival. Hand sanitizer is widely available. Bailiffs, attorneys, defendants, and witnesses alike are required to wear a mask. Chairs in the General District Court have been removed so as to maintain a social distance. Those without a subpoena are not permitted in the courtroom. To the extent possible, our Courthouse and our attorneys are complying with Governor Northam's orders and the guidelines set by the CDC.

While bench trials have recommenced, jury trials remain on hold. To seat a jury would require dozens of people to appear in court at one time—too many for any of our courtrooms. Our hope is to be able to have jury trials once more beginning this fall. We anxiously await the next order from the Governor and the Supreme Court.

Culpeper Quarterly



**The Administration Building
302 North Main Street Culpeper, VA 22701**

dhoffman@culpepercounty.gov

Airport Fly-bys...Fall 2020

By Tanya Woodward

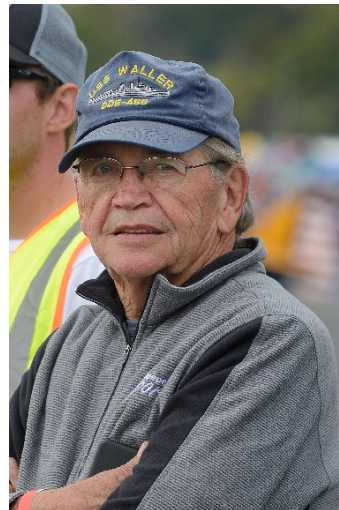
Normally at this time of year we would be excitedly telling everyone about the upcoming Air Fest in October. We would be buzzing about getting ready to host the best aerial entertainment, local vendors and businesses, and of course the greatest fans at Culpeper's largest annual event. However, as we are all aware, the Corona Virus has changed the world as we know it and many public events have been cancelled including the Air Fest for this year. Don't despair, we are already working on next years' event and it will be fantastic!

If you would like to see some air-planes and possibly take a ride in one, the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) is hosting some events throughout the year with all the proper precautions and they are located right at the airport. Check them out at capitalwing.org.

A "sister" airshow to us is located in Bealeton, VA, The Flying Circus. They perform at our show every year and this year they are celebrating their 50th Anniversary!!! They have shows every Sunday and they have started their 2020 season with the appropriate safety and distancing precautions in place. Check them out at flyingcircusairshow.com.

On a sad note, we lost two members of our airport family, Jerry Smith and Gene Kritter.

Jerry Smith was a handyman extraordinaire and could fix just about anything here at the Airport. I personally have known and worked with Jerry for over 20 years. Jerry was a US Navy Veteran, pilot, ham radio operator, musician, inventor, computer specialist and part of our Airport family. Jerry celebrated his 80th birthday in April but worked like someone half his age. Jerry always had a smile for everyone and he never knew a stranger. Jerry passed in his sleep on June 2nd. Jerry's family had a wonderful celebration of life ceremony at the Airport in July. Please keep Jerry's family in your thoughts and prayers.



We lost Gene when his helicopter struck a dove line while spraying a field in North Carolina on June 18th. Gene and his wife Lynne have run a very successful business, Kritter Cropdusting, for 28 years. Gene was very active with raising three very accomplished daughters and giving of his time to local charity events. Gene had just celebrated his 65th birthday and he and Lynne had also just celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. A beautiful celebration of life ceremony was held at Gene and Lynne's Ground Rush Farm in July. Please keep Gene's family in your thoughts and prayers.



I am going to end with my favorite quote, I have this on my office wall, in my dining room at home and I read it often. It reminds me to live life and live it well because you just don't know....

*Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take...
but by the moments that take our breath away.*